

*Funds Will Support Local Economic Development Groups*

April 8, 2010

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**"When I was a small businessman, I appreciated the work our regional economic development commission did to grow local businesses in south Louisiana," said Rep. Melancon. "As a Congressman, I strongly support federal investments in these local commissions that will enable them to further develop our business infrastructure, reenergize our economy and create jobs.**

**"The South Central Planning and Development Commission and the Acadiana Regional Development District will use this funding to bring the private and public sectors together to diversify and strengthen our local economies. I am proud to support this \$360,000 federal investment in creating more opportunities for our workers and small businesses in south Louisiana."**

The Acadiana Regional Development District, which includes Iberia, St. Martin and St. Mary parishes in Louisiana's Third Congressional District, will receive an \$180,000 federal investment from the Economic Development Administration. Another grant of \$180,000 has been awarded to the South Central Planning and Development Commission, which serves St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, Assumption, Lafourche, and Terrebonne Parishes.

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